AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, between lines 1 and 3, please added the following:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a National Stage application of PCT/NL/1024286, filed September 12, 2003.

Please replace the paragraphs on page 1, lines 3-25 with the following:

~~DESCRIPTION~~ BACKGROUND

~~The invention relates to an observation device comprising a housing, an optical lens with a field of view, which is accommodated within the housing, said housing comprising an outer dome which is transparent, at least in the field of view of the lens, for protecting the lens, and an inner dome disposed within the outer dome, the observation device having the above construction being resistant to impact by an object with a maximum impact energy of a first magnitude, and the observation device not fitted with an inner dome being resistant to impact by said object with a maximum impact energy of a second magnitude.~~

~~Within the framework of the invention, said first and second magnitudes must be determined on the basis of the IEC 60068-2-75 (part 2) standard, wherein use is made of a falling object having a specific energy content. At the magnitude of the energy content at which a camera fails, i.e. no longer functions after the impact, the camera must be considered not to be resistant to impact by the object in question.~~

~~Observation devices that only comprise an outer dome and no inner dome, therefore, are know in various embodiments thereof.~~ An observation device ~~as referred to in the introduction, i.e.~~ comprising an inner ~~dome, is~~ dome is known from European patent application EP 1 136 964 A2 and from US patent 3,819,856.

On page 3, between lines 19 and 20 please add the following:

SUMMARY

The invention relates to an observation device comprising a housing, an optical lens with a field of view, which is accommodated within the housing, said housing comprising an outer dome which is transparent, at least in the field of view of the lens, for protecting the lens, and an inner dome disposed within the outer dome, the observation device having the

above construction being resistant to impact by an object with a maximum impact energy of a first magnitude, and the observation device not fitted with an inner dome being resistant to impact by said object with a maximum impact energy of a second magnitude.

Within the framework of the invention, said first and second magnitudes must be determined on the basis of the IEC 60068-2-75 (part 2) standard, wherein use is made of a falling object having a specific energy content. At the magnitude of the energy content at which a camera fails, i.e. no longer functions after the impact, the camera must be considered not to be resistant to impact by the object in question.

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 3-7 with the following:

In a more specific preferred embodiment of the observation device according to the invention, the ~~proportion~~ ratio between said first magnitude and said second magnitude is at least 1.1, more preferably at least 1.2, even more preferably at least 1.4, and may be as high as at least 1.5. As a result of ratio between the impact energies, ~~as a result of which~~ the inner dome contributes ~~even more~~ significantly to the impact-resistance.

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 10-15 with the following:

~~In a strongly preferred~~ In an embodiment, the inner dome has a closed surface also at the field of view, at which location the inner dome must be transparent to the scanning beam, of course. A closed surface of the inner dome imparts a high degree of stiffness to the inner dome, so that the inner dome can significantly contribute to the impact-resistance of the observation device.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 18-19 with the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

These and other features, aspects, and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the following description, appended claims, and accompanying exemplary embodiments shown in the drawings, which are briefly described below. ~~The invention will be explained hereinafter with reference to a drawing, in which:~~

On page 6, between lines 26 and 27 please add the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 7-13 with the following:

As shown in Fig. 1, the observation device 100 according to one embodiment of the invention comprises a transparent plastic outer dome 300 having a wall thickness of less than about 5.0 mm and preferably less than about 3.2 mm. The outer dome 300 ~~3.2 mm, which~~ functions to protect the camera module 140, more particularly the optics 131 and the lens 130. The dome 300 has a circumferential edge 320, which is provided with external screw ~~thread, which,~~ threads, that upon attachment to the baseplate ~~110, comes to abut~~ 110 abuts against an internally threaded upright edge or flange 120 on the baseplate 110.

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 18-24 with the following:

The inner dome 200 has a viewing window 210, at which location the inner dome 200 is provided with an opening for allowing the scanning beam of the lens 130 to pass. The wall thickness of the inner dome is about 3.4 mm, and the material of the inner ~~dome is~~ dome may be, e.g., metal, ABS, black polycarbonate, or other suitable material. ~~Alternatively~~ Alternatively, it is possible to design the inner dome to have a closed surface, in which case the inner dome must be transparent in the field of view of the lens 130.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 7, line 29 and ending on page 8, line 3 with the following:

The thickness of the material of the outer dome 300 is ~~limited to~~ preferably no greater than about 5.0 mm and more preferably is no greater than 3.2 mm. As a result, not only the loss of image caused by the presence of the outer dome is kept within bounds as much as possible, but in addition the occurrence of excessive internal stresses upon impact in the case of vandalism, which might lead to unacceptable failure of the outer dome, is prevented.

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 9-12 with the following:

Furthermore, the spacing between the outer side of the inner dome 200 and the inner side of the outer dome 300 is maximally about 5.0 mm. This, too, helps to keep the constructional dimensions of the observation device within ~~bounds~~ reason.

Please replace the paragraph on page 8, lines 21-25 with the following:

The ~~proportion~~ ratio between (a) the maximum impact energy which the observation device 100 is capable of ~~resisting, measured~~ resisting (measured in accordance with the IEC 60068-2-75 (part 2) ~~standard, and~~ standard) and (b) the maximum impact energy which the observation device 100 is capable of resisting when not fitted with an inner dome 200 ~~is capable of resisting is~~ (measured in accordance with the same standard) is at least 1.1 and may be at least 1.5.